

## DRYWALL CUTTING GUIDE

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

#### 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to the general art of tools and geometric instruments, and to the particular field of cutting guides.

#### 2. Discussion of the Related Art

Many buildings and static structures require some sort of inside wall forming materials. These materials often come in large sheets which are then fastened to building support elements. The sheets are often sold in standard sizes and these sheets are then cut on site to fit the particular building location.

There are several problems associated with this method of placing such sheets of material into place. One of the problems is accurately cutting the material. Still another problem is to cut the material in a manner that is parallel to the edge of the material so the edges of the finished product are all parallel with each other.

Therefore, there is a need for a tool that can be used to define cutting guide lines on a sheet of material.

One common form of material that is sold in large sheets is drywall. In many instances, a workman must cut many sheets of drywall for a single job. Substantial overall time-saving can be achieved if each sheet can be accurately 5 cut in a minimum amount of time.

Therefore, there is a need for a tool that can be used to define cutting guide lines on a sheet of material such as drywall. Still further, there is a need for a tool that can be used to quickly and accurately define cutting guide lines 10 on a sheet of material such as drywall.

Since, in some cases, these cutting guide lines must be parallel in order to make the sheet of material useful for its intended purpose, there is a need for a tool that can be used to quickly and accurately define parallel cutting guide 15 lines on a sheet of material such as drywall.

#### PRINCIPAL OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

It is a main object of the present invention to provide a tool that can be used to define cutting guide lines on a sheet of material.

20 It is another object of the present invention to provide a tool that can be used to define cutting guide lines on a sheet of material such as drywall.

It is another object of the present invention to

provide a tool that can be used to quickly and accurately define cutting guide lines on a sheet of material such as drywall.

It is another object of the present invention to  
5 provide a tool that can be used to quickly and accurately define parallel cutting guide lines on a sheet of material such as drywall.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

These, and other, objects are achieved by a drywall  
10 cutting guide that includes a T-shaped body having roller bearings in one portion of the body that are adapted to engage an edge of a sheet of material and a plurality of slots in another portion of the body that are adapted to accommodate a drywall cutting instrument. As the T-shaped  
15 body is moved along the edge of the material, a cutting instrument is placed in a selected one of the slots and will be drawn along the body of the material in a direction that is parallel to the edge of the material. It is noted that the edge being used to guide the instrument can be either a  
20 vertical edge or a horizontal edge or an oblique edge as suitable for the particular job. The instrument can cut completely through the material or simply scribe a line to be followed when a cut is made or to sever a covering layer

of the material to facilitate breaking of the material, such  
as drywall. In either case, the material can be cut to form  
an edge that is parallel to the edge being used to guide the  
cutting guide. The form of the instrument disclosed herein  
5 is used to cut drywall.

Using the drywall cutting guide embodying the present  
invention will permit a workman to define precisely located,  
consistent lines for cutting a sheet of material such as  
drywall. The lines will be parallel with each other and with  
10 the edge of the sheet of material and hence will be  
accurately and precisely placed. The time spent placing  
cutting guide lines will be reduced along with the increase  
in precision and accuracy.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES

15 Figure 1 is a perspective view of a drywall cutting  
guide embodying the present invention.

Figure 2 is a view taken along line 2-2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a detailed view of a portion of the drywall  
cutting guide shown in Figure, according to the present  
20 invention.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Other objects, features and advantages of the invention

will become apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description and the accompanying drawings.

Referring to the Figures, it can be understood that the present invention is embodied in a drywall cutting guide 10.

5 Cutting guide 10 is used to cut and/or mark a piece of material, such as drywall 12, which includes a first edge 14, a second edge 16, and a planar face 18.

Drywall cutting guide 10 includes a T-shaped body 20 that is shaped in the nature of a T-square. Body 20 includes 10 a first body portion 22 which has a first edge 24 which is adapted to be located adjacent to first edge 14 of sheet 12 being cut during use of the T-shaped body 20.

The first body portion 22 of drywall cutting guide 10 further includes a second edge 26, and a transverse axis 28 15 which extends between the first edge 24 of the first body portion 22 and the second edge 26 of the first body portion 22.

The first body portion 22 of drywall cutting guide 10 further includes a first end 30, a second end 32, and a 20 longitudinal axis 34 which extends between the first end 30 of the first body portion 22 and the second end 32 of the first body portion 22.

The first body portion 22 of drywall cutting guide 10 further includes a first planar face 36, a second face 38,

and a U-shaped handle 40 mounted on the first face 36 of the first body portion 22.

Drywall cutting guide 10 further includes a second body portion 50. Second body portion 50 includes a first edge 52 which is located adjacent to a planar surface of the drywall 12 during use of the T-shaped body 20. First edge 52 of the second body portion 50 is oriented to be perpendicular to first edge 24 of the first body portion 22.

Second body portion 50 further includes a second edge 54 and a transverse axis 56 which extends between the first edge 52 of the second body portion 50 and the second edge 54 of the second body portion 50.

Second body portion 50 further includes a first end 58, a second end 60, and a longitudinal axis 62 which extends between the first end 58 of the second body portion 50 and the second end 60 of the second body portion 50. Longitudinal axis 62 of the second body portion 50 is oriented to be perpendicular to longitudinal axis 34 of the first body portion 22.

Second body portion 50 further includes a first planar face 66 which is co-planar with first planar face 36 of the first body portion 22.

Second body portion 50 further includes a second face 70 which is planar and which slidably abuts a planar face of

the sheet of material, such as planar face 18 of drywall 12, being cut during use of the T-shaped body 20.

Second body portion 50 further includes a groove 74 defined in the second edge 54 of the second body portion 50. Groove 74 extends from the first end 58 of the second body portion 50 to the second end 32 of the first body portion 22 and is used by the user to rest his or her thumb or finger on the cutting guide 10.

A plurality of roller bearings, such as roller bearings 90 and 92, are located in the first edge 24 of the first body portion 22. The roller bearings 90, 92 are spaced apart from each other in the direction of the longitudinal axis 34 of the first body portion 22 and rollably engage first edge 14 of the sheet of material being cut during use of the T-shaped body 20.

A plurality of slots, such as slot 94, are defined in the second body portion 50. The slots 94 extend parallel to the first edge 24 of the first body portion 22 and extend from the first edge 52 of the second body portion 50 toward the second edge 54 of the second body portion 50. The slots 94 are sized to be adapted to accommodate a drywall cutting and or marking instrument.

A plurality of indicia, such as number 96, are located on the first face 66 of the second body portion 50 adjacent

to the slots 94.

Use of cutting guide 10 can be understood from the teaching of the foregoing disclosure and thus will not be described in detail. However, as can be understood, a sheet 5 of material is marked or cut by placing guide 10 onto the sheet with edge 24 resting on edge 14 and slots 94 located adjacent to surface 18. A cutting instrument or a marking instrument is placed through at least one of the slots and into contact with surface 18. Guide 10 is then slid along 10 edge 14 with the cutting or marking instrument in contact with surface 18 to define a cut or a mark. The defined cut or mark will be parallel to edge 14.

It is understood that while certain forms of the present invention have been illustrated and described 15 herein, it is not to be limited to the specific forms or arrangements of parts described and shown.